

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 07713 081333Z

46

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 ERDE-00 SAM-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 OES-06

CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 /074 W

----- 118615

O R 081244Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7475

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 7713

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MNUC, GI, SP

SUBJECT: GIBRALTAR--SPANISH PROTEST US NPW VISIT

REF: MADRID 7190, 7191, 7209, 7441, 7689

1. DURING OCT 7 CALL BY ME ON ANOTHER MATTER, FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY SOLANO HANDED ME A NOTE VERBALE EXPRESSING THE MINISTRY'S "FIRMEST PROTEST" OF THE ENTRY OF TWO NPW'S (THE NIMITZ AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA) IN "SPANISH WATERS" OCT 1-3 WITHOUT THE PERMISSION REQUIRED BY ARTICLE VIII OF THE AGREEMENT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION. (FULL TEXT OF NOTE CONTAINED SEPTEL.)

2. SOLANO, WHILE SAYING THAT HE WAS PRESENTING THE PROTEST IN A FRIENDLY WAY, NEVERTHELESS EMPHASIZED THAT THE PROTEST WAS "ENERGETIC," THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER (WHO HAD PERSONALLY INITIALED THE NOTE) HAD NOT LIKED THE US ACTION ONE BIT, AND THAT THE SPANISH NAVY FELT THE SAME WAY. PARTICULARLY PAINFUL, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 07713 081333Z

HE SAID, WAS THE FACT THAT THE VIOLATION SHOULD HAVE OCCURRED

SO SOON AFTER THE TREATY ENTERED INTO EFFECT, AND PRECISELY
ON THE SAME DAY THAT THE SPANISH-US COUNCIL WAS BEING CONSTITUTED.

3. I DREW HIS ATTENTION TO THE VARIOUS DISCUSSIONS OF THIS
MATTER BY THE AMBASSADOR WITH SENIOR SPANISH OFFICIALS.
SOLANO ACKNOWLEDGED THESE, BUT MAINTAINED HIS POSITION. I
STRESSED TO HIM THE POINT THAT, AS LONG AS US SHIPS ARE
NEEDED TO OPERATE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN ON BEHALF OF WESTERN
DEFENSE INTERESTS SHARED BY SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES, THEY
WOULD NEED PORTS OF CALL. SOLANO ACKNOWLEDGED THIS POINT,
AND OBSERVED THAT THE MATTER OF NPW VISITS TO SPAIN WAS BEING
WORKED ON BY OUR TWO NAVIES. THIS MATTER HAD NOT YET BEEN
RESOLVED.

4. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS FORMALISTIC PROTEST WITHOUT,
AS YET AT LEAST, ATTENDANT NEGATIVE PUBLICITY IS A BETTER
OUTCOME TO AN UNFORTUNATE CHAIN OF EVENTS THAN MIGHT HAVE
OCCURRED. BECAUSE OF THE INCLUSION OF THE CLAIM THAT THE SHIPS
ENTERED "SPANISH WATERS" WITHOUT PERMISSION, WE PRESUME
WE SHOULD REPLY WITH A NOTE FOR THE RECORD EVEN THOUGH THE
TERMINATION OF THIS INCIDENT WITH MINIMUM DAMAGE WOULD BE
MORE LIKELY IF WE WERE SIMPLY TO FILE THE FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE
WITHOUT REPLY. ANY NOTE FOR THE RECORD SHOULD, IN ANY EVENT,
BE DRAFTED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE
RAISING EMOTIONS ON THIS ISSUE. IT MIGHT, FOR INSTANCE,
SIMPLY ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE AND
SAY THAT OUR VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED
SEPARATELY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS.
EATON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOTE VERBALE, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, MILITARY VISITS, NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS, USS NIMITZ, USS SOUTH CAROLINA, TERRITORIAL WATERS VIOLATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID07713
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760380-0571
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761068/aaaachbh.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MADRID 7190
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GIBRALTAR--SPANISH PROTEST US NPW VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MNUC, PLOS, GI, SP, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006